



## Department of Veterans Affairs

Washington, D.C.

### Tim S. McClain

Tim S. McClain was confirmed by the Senate as General Counsel for the Department of Veterans Affairs in April 2001. As General Counsel, he serves as the chief legal advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and manages the Office of General Counsel, which is comprised of nearly 400 attorneys assigned throughout the United States.

A 1970 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Mr. McClain served in Vietnam as a Surface Warfare Officer before being selected for the Navy's Law Education Program. He attended California Western School of Law and received his Juris Doctor degree in 1978.

After joining the Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps, Mr. McClain served as criminal defense counsel at Navy Legal Service Office, San Diego, and Chief Legal Advisor to the Commanding Officer at Naval Air Station Miramar in San Diego, California. In 1983, he was assigned as a Department Head at the Naval Justice School in Newport, Rhode Island, where he was instrumental in implementing trial advocacy programs for military lawyers patterned after those developed by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. In 1986, Mr. McClain was assigned as a General Court-Martial Military Judge, where he presided over hundreds of courts-martial.

Retiring from active duty in 1990, Mr. McClain entered private practice and joined a litigation law firm in San Diego. He specialized in defending professional negligence cases, particularly medical and legal malpractice cases. Mr. McClain later joined an international consulting firm as a management consultant, and was responsible for implementing process and productivity improvements in several Fortune 500 companies.

In 1999, Mr. McClain formed a small law partnership in La Jolla, California, where he specialized in military administrative law, medical licensing, civil litigation and government administrative hearings.

Mr. McClain is a member of the State Bar of California.



**General Counsel**